

Application No. 10/807,605
Amendment Dated February 6, 2006
Reply to Interview of February 3 and 6, 2006

REMARKS

The above amendments are made in response to interviews held with the Examiner on February 3 and 6, 2006. With this amendment, independent Claim 27 is amended to include the subject matter of Claim 30, and Claim 30 is canceled without prejudice. Also, new independent Claim 34 is added as the combination of previously presented Claims 27, 29, and 33. New dependent Claims 35-37 are added as dependent from new Claim 34, with Claims 35-37 replicating the subject matter of previously-presented Claims 30-32. These dependent claims are not double-patenting of any of Claims 27, 31 and 32 since Claims 27, 31 and 32 do not include the features of previously-presented Claims 29 and 33, which are included by new dependent Claims 35-37 through their dependency on new independent Claim 34.

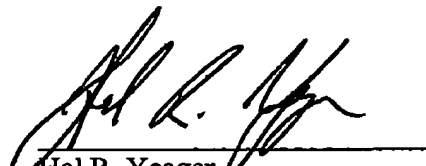
As to amended Claim 27, it is respectfully submitted that the cited prior art does not teach or suggest the combination of a lanthanum nickel oxide (LaNiO_3) layer having a non-amorphous microstructure that comprises grains of crystalline material, an average diameter in the range from 100 Å to 300 Å, and a resistivity of less than 330 $\mu\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$ for the layer.

As to new independent Claim 34, it is respectfully submitted that the cited prior art does not teach or suggest the combination of a lanthanum nickel oxide (LaNiO_3) layer having a non-amorphous microstructure that comprises grains of crystalline material, an average diameter in the range from 100 Å to 300 Å, the grains of the crystalline material of the lanthanum nickel oxide layer having a crystal lattice constant that is closely matched to the crystal lattice constant of the substrate, and an average surface roughness of the layer in a range from 2 nm to 3 nm.

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Respectfully submitted,



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